

# How to enter the mountain biking competition at Paris 2024. The qualification process for the Olympics

The Olympic Games will once again include Cross-country Mountain biking, with both male and female competitions planned for Paris 2024. Olympic fans can buy [Olympic Mountain Bike Tickets](#) from our website.

Mountain biking will make a comeback to the Paris 2024 Olympic programmer after the thrills of Tokyo 2020. The highest sporting prize—an Olympic gold medal—will be up for grabs in races between men and women at Paris' Elancourt Hill.



Cycling competitors must first qualify for the competition, which is no small feat in in of itself, before any of that can happen. Find out everything you need to know about the cross-country mountain bike route to Paris 2024 below.

## **At Paris 2024, how many competitors will compete in the mountain bike event?**

The Paris 2024 mountain bike competition will have 72 participants in total. As the host nation, France has been given two quota spots—one for men and one for women—while the Tripartite Commission will decide on two further universality slots in 2024.

A maximum of two quota seats for men and two for women are available to each NOC, which is a decrease from three each in Tokyo 2020. The remaining 68 spots, 34 for women and 34 for men, will be distributed based on competitions leading up to the Games.

### **What is the mountain bike qualification route for the 2024 Olympics in Paris?**

Olympic qualification is based on points earned at UCI Mountain Bike Olympic Qualification events. NOCs in positions one through eight will qualify two athletes, while positions nine through 19 will qualify just one.

The three top athletes from each NOC across the qualification period, which runs from May 7 to May 26, 2024, will be combined to determine the UCI rankings. The rankings only take into account the latest two completed Continental Championships, if there are more than two.



At the Cross-country Continental Championships outside of Europe and Oceania, a maximum of one athlete can qualify per NOC, with each spot going to the highest-ranked NOC in Africa, America, and Asia.

A maximum of one spot per NOC will be qualified for the elite and under 23 races at the 2023 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships among the two highest-ranked NOCs that have not already earned a quota spot through the 2023 Continental Championships or the UCI Mountain Bike Olympic Qualification ranking. NOCs that have qualified through the elite race are not eligible to qualify through the under 23 race.



## **What is the timetable and structure for the mountain biking competition in Paris in 2024?**

A cross-country race for men and women will be part of the mountain bike competition in Paris in 2024, much like it was in Tokyo in 2020. The races will be held on July 28 and 29, with each race taking place in the afternoon from 14:00 to 16:30.

Elancourt Hill, the highest point in the Paris region with a height of 231 meters, will serve as the competition's location. 95% of the course is built on already-existing trails, with different routes to be preserved as a legacy for the general public after the Games, minimizing the course's environmental impact.

### **Watch out for mountain bikers in Paris in 2024**

Multi-discipline racer Tom Pidcock of Great Britain won the men's mountain bike event in Tokyo 2020. With Spain's David Valero cycling to bronze and Switzerland's Mathias Flockier capturing silver. In addition to winning the Cycle-cross World Championships in January, Pidcock has been competing in the road cycling season.

Keep a watch on Swiss rider Nino Schurter, who tied Julien Absalon of France for the most XCO World Cup victories ever with his victory in the 2022 World Cup season opener in Petropolis, Brazil. Olympic fans can buy [Olympic Tickets](#) from our website.



The racers Mathieu van der Poel of the Netherlands and Victor Koretzky of France will also be vying for a podium finish in Paris. Jolanda Neff of Switzerland is the current Olympic champion in the women's competition. She finished ahead of third-place finisher Linda Indergrand and silver medalist Sina Frei on the podium.

Other notable athletes in the women's field include Pauline Ferrand-Prevot of France, Loana Lecomte of France, Evie Richards of Great Britain, Jenny Rissveds of Sweden, and three-time XCO world champion Pauline Ferrand-Prevot of France.

### **Timelines for mountain bike qualification for the 2024 Olympics**

Period of UCI Mountain Bike Qualification: **7 May 2022-26 May 2024**

**From 3 to 13 August 2023**, results will be taken into consideration for the UCI Mountain Bike Qualification ranking.



**7 May 2022 - 26 May 2024:** 2023 African Continental Championships, American Continental Championships, and Asian Continental Championships will all take place at the 2023 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships (TBD)

Olympic Qualification for Mountain Biking by UCI is issued on **May 28, 2024.**

**On June 3, 2024**, UCI notifies the NOCs in writing that it has met its quota for those spots.

The NOCs must declare to UCI on June 17 that they are using the reserved quota spots.

UCI will reallocate all unused quota spots on **June 21, 2024**.

NOCs must declare to the UCI on June 28, 2024, that the reallocated, unused quota places will be used.

Deadline for Paris 2024 Sport Entries is **July 8, 2024**.

Paris 2024 Olympic Games, **26 July - 11 August**

When some cyclists desired to go off-road and discover new paths, the mountain bike, a relatively new sport, was born in the 1970s. The first mountain bikes that could endure blows from riding were developed in the 1990s. After then, mountain biking took off, developed into a separate activity, and started to take shape. Before the first official World Championships were conducted in the 1990s, the first unofficial tournaments were held in the 1980s.

### **Brief overview of the rules**

There are separate men's and women's cross-country mountain bike competitions. Riders compete in many circuits around a loop over mountainous, challenging terrain that tests their technique, endurance, and stamina. Riders take off from the same starting line.

A mass start and typically numerous laps are features of races. The event's challenging, winding circuit takes riders one to two hours to finish, spanning tens of kilometers.

### **Olympic history**

At the Atlanta 1996 Games, mountain biking made its Olympic debut with separate races for men and women, 100 years after track cycling and road cycling. France has dominated mountain biking in its brief Olympic history, taking home three gold medals for men and one for women in addition to one silver and one bronze.

Six medals have been won by Switzerland as well. Nino Schurter, who has won a gold, silver, and bronze medal and is a heavy favourite to win the Olympic gold at the Tokyo 2020 Games, is largely responsible for the team's impressive track record.

### **Events in 2024**

The mountain bike competitions will be held on **July 28 and 29**.

Cross-country (women's / men's)

## **Venue in 2024**

### **Elancourt Hill**

In 2024, viewers will have the opportunity to take in the most stunning BMX races and tricks from the highest point in the Paris Region, which is 231 meters above sea level. By selecting Elancourt in Les Yvelines, it will be feasible to strengthen and support an already-existing sporting event while enhancing the venue's ecological advantages.

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